Increase in seating capacity in Indian Airlines

49. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines propose to increase seating capacity in its fleet by 30 per cent during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines plans to augment its capacity by 25-30 per cent during the current financial year with the phased re-introduction of the A-320 aircraft. This capacity increase would be spread over the network, consistent with the traffic growth occuring on different routes.

Inadequate facilities at Bombay Airport

50. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that international Airlines have threatened to withhold the rent for July 1991 at Bombay airport due to inadequate facilities.

(b) whether it is also a fact that Power supply to Bombay airport was frequently disrupted during June 1991 and even the standby generators failed in May/June 1991; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to prevent recurrence of such events at Bombay and other airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Because of unprecedented rains there was a total breakdown of power at Bombay airport on 8th and 9th June, 1991.

(c) Detailed discussions have already been held with BSES to improve operational coordination particularly at such times.

Upgradation of the Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology at Pune

51. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government for upgradation of the Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology at Pune; and

(b) if so, by when a decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal to upgrade Foodcraft Institute, Pune into a diploma level has been considered by the Ministry as a special case. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Maharashtra for allocation of adequate land and for consenting to bear 50 per cent cost of tht Institute building as per approved pattern. As soon as the concurrence of the State Government is received, further action would be taken by the Ministry. However, Pune Institute is already conducting 3 year diploma courses since the academic year 1982-83 which are recognised by the State Board of Technical Education, Maharashtra.

Pending Power Projects of Andhra Pradesh

52. DR. YELAMANCHILLI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON - CONVENTIONAL ENERGY